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Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: January 6, 2022

SOUTHEAST ALASKA GOLDEN KING CRAB PERSONAL USE FISHERY CLOSURE

The personal use golden king crab fishery in the Northern Area will close at 12:00 noon, Friday, February 11, 2022.

The Northern management area will be closed for the 2021/2022 season in response to continued and historically low fishery performance and concern for the long-term reproductive potential of golden king crab. Golden king crab are vulnerable to overexploitation at low population levels given their slow growth and late maturation. In prior seasons for areas experiencing poor performance, the department has continued to implement preseason reductions in guideline harvest levels (GHLs) and inseason closure of management areas before harvest has reached GHLs. However, fishery performance has continued to decline and has reached historical lows and appears to be longer in duration than that experienced during the 1990s collapse, warranting further management action to allow for the rebuilding of golden king crab stocks and to ensure sustainable fisheries in the future [5 AAC 77.664(b)]. Refer to Figure 1 for a map showing open and closed waters for personal use golden king crab fishing effective at 12:00 noon, February 11, 2022.

Closed Area Descriptions (effective February 11, 2022)

• Northern Area [5 AAC 34.107(a)]: all waters of Section 11-A, Section 13-C, and Section 13-A in Peril Strait east of Point Kakul at 57°21.83′ N lat, 135°41.42′ W long, and all waters of Districts 12 and 15.

For general information about the personal use golden king crab fishery, including season length, bag and possession limits, and permit requirements, please refer to the department advisory announcement dated June 1, 2021.

The Emergency Order corresponding with this announcement is EO 1C0522.

Advisory Announcement web site: http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main.

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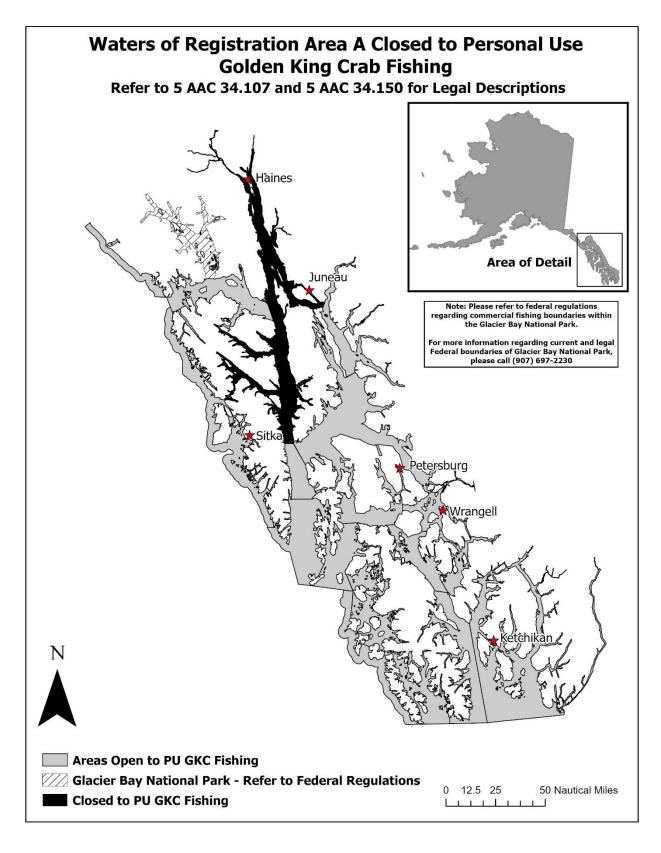


Figure 1. Effective at 12:00 noon, February 11, 2022, waters of Southeast Alaska closed to the retention of personal use golden king crab. This map is intended for general reference purposes only. Please refer to regulatory text for legal descriptions of management area boundaries.